

the person is an unauthorized alien shall not be eligible for the receipt of future awards under section 9 of the Small Business Act.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1125, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Chairman, I am offering this amendment along with my colleagues, Representatives ELLSWORTH and ALTMIRE, to H.R. 5819, the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Reauthorization Act.

As a physicist with a long career at a Federal laboratory that supported and benefited from the SBIR program, I am committed to reauthorizing these innovative and worthwhile programs. The SBIR program is designed to increase the participation of small high technology firms in the Federal R&D endeavor.

The program was established upon the belief that while high technology-based companies under 500 employees tended to be highly innovative, and innovation is essential to our economic well-being and the high standard of living that we enjoy, that small businesses are, unfortunately, underrepresented in government R&D activities.

Our amendment is simple. Similar to other amendments that have been offered on various pieces of legislation, it is codifying current regulations and makes absolutely clear that illegal immigrants are not eligible for these programs. Legal permanent residents would be eligible; however, illegal immigrants would not. Moreover, a firm found to be in violation of this provision would be barred from receiving future awards.

If this language looks familiar, it should. As I just alluded to, similar language was adopted last year during consideration of H.R. 3867, the Small Business Contracting Program Improvements Act.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. The American taxpayer must have confidence that their hard-earned dollars are being spent properly, and this amendment, by making crystal clear that illegal immigrants are not eligible for these programs, helps accomplish this.

Upon passage of comprehensive immigration reform, the path to eligibility for these programs will be the path to citizenship under the rule of law.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chairman, while not opposed to the amendment, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentlemen for their amendment and their efforts to improve the bill. It is only appropriate that the recipients of Federal grants like the SBIR and STTR programs should be majority owned and controlled by individuals who are citizens of or permanent resident aliens in the United States. The amendment would clarify this requirement.

I support this amendment, but it is important to recognize that we cannot solve our country's immigration challenges on a piecemeal basis. This is an important amendment and reminds us that comprehensive immigration reform is good for America's national and economic security.

I now yield to the gentleman from Ohio for any comments that he may have.

Mr. CHABOT. I thank the chairwoman for yielding.

We have no objections.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Representative ALTMIRE.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Chairman, I would like to thank Congressman ELLSWORTH and Congressman FOSTER for their leadership in joining me today in offering this amendment.

Our amendment clearly states that any small business that is either owned by or employs illegal immigrants will not qualify for SBIR funding. By adding this language, we clarify that Congress will not reward those small businesses who fail to play by the rules.

As we know, SBIR awards are critical to assisting our Nation's small businesses compete, and Congress must ensure that those monetary awards paid for by the American taxpayer are not provided to those small businesses that purposefully contribute to our Nation's ongoing illegal immigration problem.

This amendment is absolutely necessary because of those bad actors who choose to ignore the law and hire individuals who are not in this country legally.

I urge adoption of our amendment to guarantee protections for American small businesses.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chairman, I am prepared to accept the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair understands that amendments 16 and 17 will not be offered.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 110-603 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. MATHESON of Utah.

Amendment No. 11 by Mrs. CAPITO of West Virginia.

Amendment No. 15 by Mr. FOSTER of Illinois.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. MATHESON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 355, noes 48, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 213]

AYES—355

Abercrombie	Carnahan	Eshoo
Ackerman	Carney	Etheridge
Allen	Carson	Faleomavaega
Altmire	Castle	Fallin
Arcuri	Castor	Farr
Baca	Chabot	Fattah
Bachus	Chandler	Ferguson
Baird	Christensen	Filner
Baldwin	Clarke	Forbes
Barrow	Clay	Fortenberry
Bartlett (MD)	Cleaver	Fossella
Bean	Coble	Foster
Becerra	Cohen	Frank (MA)
Berkley	Cole (OK)	Frelinghuysen
Berman	Conyers	Galleghy
Berry	Costa	Gerlach
Biggert	Costello	Giffords
Billbray	Courtney	Gilchrest
Bilirakis	Crenshaw	Gillibrand
Bishop (GA)	Crowley	Gohmert
Bishop (NY)	Cuellar	Gonzalez
Bishop (UT)	Culberson	Goode
Blackburn	Cummings	Gordon
Boehner	Davis (AL)	Granger
Bonner	Davis (CA)	Graves
Bono Mack	Davis (IL)	Green, Al
Boozman	Davis, Lincoln	Green, Gene
Bordallo	Deal (GA)	Grijalva
Boren	DeGette	Gutierrez
Boswell	Delahunt	Hall (NY)
Boucher	DeLauro	Hall (TX)
Boustany	Dent	Hare
Boyd (FL)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Harman
Boyda (KS)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hastings (FL)
Brady (PA)	Dingell	Hastings (WA)
Brown (SC)	Donnelly	Hayes
Brown, Corrine	Doyle	Heller
Buchanan	Drake	Hensarling
Butterfield	Dreier	Herger
Calvert	Edwards	Herseth Sandlin
Camp (MI)	Ehlers	Hill
Cannon	Ellison	Hinchey
Cantor	Ellsworth	Hinojosa
Capito	Emanuel	Hirono
Capps	Emerson	Hobson
Capuano	Engel	Hodes
Cardoza	English (PA)	Hoekstra